



Statement

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Contacts:

- Ted Thomas, Chief Public Information Officer, 916-653-9712
- Matt Notley, Public Affairs Office, 916-651-7242

DWR Director Responds to today's U.S. Army Corps levee inspection results

Sacramento, CA – Department of Water Resources (DWR) Director Mark Cowin responded today to the release of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers periodic levee inspection report.

“Today’s levee inspection results announced by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, although not a surprise, reinforces the need to proactively manage our flood risk. We have been and will continue to work closely with the Corps through our FloodSAFE Initiative to address flood risk on a system-wide basis. This includes any deficiencies in the five levee systems the Corps identified today.

To that end, since voters approved nearly \$5 billion in flood bonds in 2006 the state has completed 118 of the most critical levee repairs and completed repairs on 146 proactive levees sites. Four critical levee repairs are currently in progress, while 76 proactive repairs are under way. In addition, Gov. Schwarzenegger expedited over \$740 million in state and local money for eight Early Implementation Projects that include the soon to be completed Natomas levee project.

We must remember that once the levee maintenance deficiencies the Corps identified today are resolved, and after the FloodSAFE Initiative completes its Central Valley Flood Protection Plan, there will always be risk of flooding in California. We will continue to work with the Corps and our local counterparts to ensure that our levees are maintained to the proper standards for the safety of our residents, the environment and the economy.”

The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

Contact the [DWR Public Affairs Office](#) for more information about DWR's water activities.